FILE NO. M09626

Declaration and Power of Attorney

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

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The specification	of which				
	ttached hereto filed on Application Seria and was amended o		icable)		as _·
	te that I have revipecification, inclue to above.				he
	e the duty to discles application in ac (a).*				
Code, §119 of any listed below and h	im foreign priority foreign applications ave also identified ificate having a fi is claimed:	s(s) for patent o below any foreig	r inventor's n applicatio	certific on for pat	cate tent
Prior Foreign Appl	ications(s)			Prio: Clai	
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Yea	r Filed)	□ Yes	No
any United States matter of each of United States appl Title 35, United S material informati	im the benefit unde application(s) list the claims of this ication in the manntates Code, §112, I on as defined in Tiurred between the fi	ed below and, ins application is no er provided by th acknowledge the tle 37, Code of F	ofar as the ot disclosed se first para duty to disc ederal Regul	subject in the pagraph of close lations,	rior

(Application Serial No.) (Filing Date) (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Page 1 of 4

this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: William D. Lanyi (Reg. No. 30,190), and Michael E. Taken (Reg. No. 28,120).
Address all telephone calls to <u>William D. Lanyi</u> at telephone number (414) <u>929-5419</u> .
Address all correspondence to William D. Lanyi , Director of Intellectual Property Mercury Marine, Division of Brunswick Corporation
W6250 Pioneer Road P.O. Box 1939 Fond du Lac, WI 54936-1939
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.
Full Name of Sole or First Inventor Inventor's Signature Residence Citizenship Post Office Address Jeffery M. Konopacki Date 6-24- 2003 MI649 State Road 23, Ripon, WI 54971 United States W11649 State Road 23, Ripon, WI 54971
Full Name of second Joint Inventor, if any Inventor's Signature Residence Citizenship Post Office Address Blake R. Suhre Date June / \$ 2003 684 Yorkshire Road, Neenah, WI 54956 United States 684 Yorkshire Road, Neenah, WI 54956
Full Name of third Joint Inventor, if any Inventor's Signature Date 2003 Residence Citizenship United States Post Office Address
Full Name of fourth Joint Inventor, if any Inventor's Signature Date 2003 Residence Citizenship United States Post Office Address

Full Name of fifth Joint Inventor, if any		
Inventor's Signature	Date	2003
Residence		
Citizenship Post Office Address		
Post Office Address		
Full Name of sixth Joint Inventor, if any		
Inventor's Signature	Date	2003
Residence		
Citizenship		
Post Office Address		
Full Name of seventh		
Joint Inventor, if any		
Inventor's Signature	Date	2003
Residence		
Citizenship		
Post Office Address		

*Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56:

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
- (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
 - (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.